

wherein the crosslinked polymer according to Claim 1 is used as a catalyst.

a 10. (Amended) A method of producing glycols by the reaction of water with an oxirane compound,

wherein the crosslinked polymer according to Claim 1' is used as a catalyst.

Please add the following new claims.

13. (New) A method of using the crosslinked polymer according to Claim 2 in a reaction step

wherein said reaction step is a step of carrying out an ion exchange reaction or a step of carrying out a reaction for activating an active hydrogen atom in an active hydrogen-containing compound.

14. (New) A method of producing a hydroxy alkyl (meth) acrylate by the reaction of a (meth) acrylic acid with an oxirane compound,

wherein the crosslinked polymer according to Claim 2' is used as a catalyst.

15. (New) A method of producing glycols by the reaction of water with an oxirane compound,

wherein the crosslinked polymer according to Claim 2' is used as a catalyst.

REMARKS

The claims have been amended to eliminate multiple dependency and to improve their format. None of these amendments is believed to involve any new matter. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the foregoing amendments be entered, that